DOCUMENT RESUME

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ABSTRACT

An outline is given of the contents of learning kits for the Families Learning Together Program. Descriptions are provided of learning activities engaged in jointly by parents and children on the subjects of reading, mathematics, occupational knowledge, consumer economics, community resources, health, and citizenship. Ordering information for these kits is also provided. (JD)

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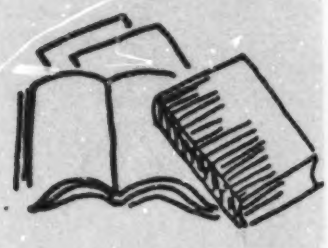
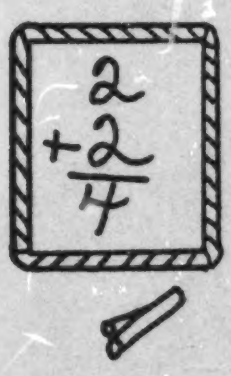
Families Learning Together

a daily life curriculum

Reading



Mathematics



OCCUPATIONAL KNOWLEDGE

CONSUMER ECONOMICS

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

HEALTH

CITIZENSHIP

ED179532

SP015172

SAMPLE KIT

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The HOME and SCHOOL INSTITUTE INC.
non-profit

c/o Trinity College
Washington, D.C. 20017
202/466-3633

September 1979

FAMILIES LEARNING TOGETHER KITS: FOR FAMILIES AND FOR SCHOOLS

We are delighted to hear from you and learn of your interest in the Home and School Institute's Families Learning Together program. Because of the overwhelming acceptance of this innovative curriculum, HSI is now preparing two types of kits in order to make these materials directly available to schools, to other community institutions, and to individual families. Kits are being prepared for families with children in grades K-3 and also for families working with children who are in grades 4-6.

The emphasis throughout the Families Learning Together curriculum is on simultaneously building children's basic skills in reading and math while adults learn more about parenting and about daily life concerns such as nutrition, safety and consumerism. The curriculum is composed of short, easy activities called "recipes" which utilize the ordinary resources of the home and neighborhood and do not duplicate schoolwork. The enclosed news release outlines the findings on the program's effectiveness in its 1979 field-testing.

KITS FOR INDIVIDUAL FAMILIES

For individual families who want to use this curriculum at home, HSI is currently preparing a Families Learning Together kit which will function as an introductory home learning system and is projected to contain the following items in an embossed folder:

> "Recipe Activities" selection for grades K-3 or 4-6; pencils and pads of writing and construction paper; message for student; tips for parents on using the program; calendar for family use to show progress in doing "recipes"; stickers for "rewards" to be placed on calendar by child; poster/map of learning places around home and in the community; picture or personalised decoration for the front of the kit; emblem identifying family as participant in program for use on home window or car bumper. This kit will be available directly from the Home and School Institute and will cost $12 for each kit. (See preliminary reservation form at the end of this letter.)

(see next page)

KITS FOR SCHOOLS AND OTHER COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS

HSI is preparing teacher and student kits suitable for a full school year program utilizing the Families Learning Together curriculum. These kits will be comprehensive and usable in any school, on their own without the need of outside consultant help. The kit will contain everything that a school and individual teacher need to put the Families Learning Together program into action. They are ideal for all parent involvement programs, especially Title I (ESEA) Title IV, and Right to Read.

The teacher kits will contain the following items:

Teacher's In-Service Training Guide: explaining the program, the research and practices underlying this system, including effective ways for reaching parents.

Teacher's Manual: presenting specific ways and methods to use this program including outreach to all of the families within a class, community and adult education program. The focus of the program's use may vary and can include building children's basic skills, building adult competencies, community, adult and family/parenting education.

Evaluation instruments for teacher and for family use, including a classroom calendar for Families Learning Together participation.

Poster and pins for all participants (teacher, students, family) attesting to participation in the program.

Certificates issued through HSI upon completion of the program by the students and their families.

The student kits will contain all that individual family kits contain and more in that the program as presented through the school or agency will run for a full school year and sufficient activities will be presented to cover that time period.

It is projected that kits for individual teachers will cost $48@ and kits for their students for the full school year will cost $24@.

On the basis of the field-test experience and the needs in the educational community for practical and substantive parent involvement materials to build children's skills, it is anticipated that these materials will be in great demand. HSI, a nonprofit organization, has only limited resources and will be able to publish only a limited number of these educational materials. It is planned to have a number of these kits available in January 1980. To assure that a sufficient number of kits be made to meet the needs of families and schools, it is important that families and organizations interested in these kits indicate this to HSI.

We look forward to working with you and making these special materials available to you.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Rich

Dorothy Rich, Ed.D.
President

* *

TEAR OFF AND RETURN THIS FORM TO HOME AND SCHOOL INSTITUTE
c/o Trinity College
Washington, DC 20017

NAME_____

TITLE_____

SCHOOL/ORGANIZATION_____

ADDRESS (street)_____

CITY, STATE, ZIP_____

I am interested in:

The Individual Family Kit____ K-3____ 4-6____
$12@

Teacher Curriculum Kit ____ K-3____ 4-6____
Full School Year $43@

Student Program Kit ____ K-3____ 4-6____
Full School Year $24@

Please notify me when the kits are ready._____

Comments? Please indicate the number of kits you may need.

_____

_____

THE FAMILIES LEARNING TOGETHER CURRICULUM

The following materials are included in this sample kit:
BLUEPRINTS FOR FAMILY LEARNING illustrates how the complete Families Learning Together curriculum melds children's grade and basic skill levels with Adult Performance Level (APL) knowledge areas.

For example, parents can use this chart to find suitable activities for their own interests and their children's needs. Parents interested in certain subjects can look first at the adult knowledge areas. These are houses full of learning containing reading and math activities at the two levels, grades K-3 and 4-6. A parent interested in health and wanting to help his fifth grader's reading skills might pick Operation Alert. The entire Families Learning Together curriculum is outlined in this chart in order to make this selection method possible.

A LETTER TO PARENTS shows how parents can use the symbols to get the most out of the "recipes."

TIPS FOR GOOD RESULTS are hints for achieving good results in using the "recipes."

THE "RECIPES" are the actual activities designed for families to do together. They are grouped in four main categories: Grades K-3 Reading, K-3 Math, Grades 4-6 Reading, 4-6 Math. The complete kit contains 24 "recipe" activities for grades K-3 and 24 "recipe" activities for grades 4-6. This sample kit provides you with two activities.

SUCCESS FOR CHILDREN BEGINS AND CONTINUES AT HOME.

These are some of the reports and suggests from parents who have used the "recipes" in their own homes.

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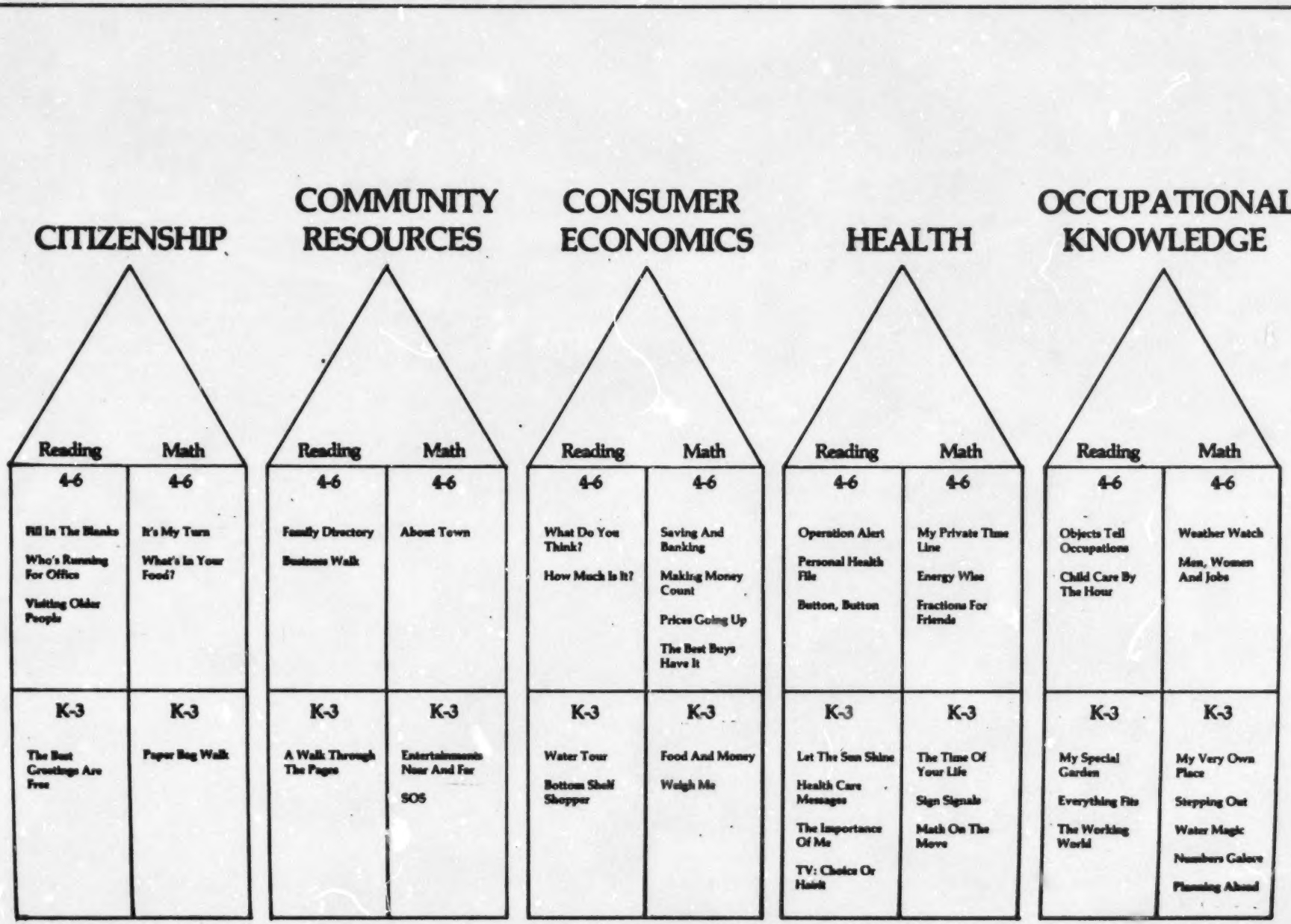
BLUEPRINT FOR FAMILY LEARNING



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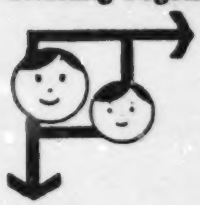
A Letter to Parents

Each "recipe" outlines a step-by-step way to do the activity. Signs are used to show each part of the "recipe."

Learning Together



The top arrow points to something children can learn from this activity.

The down arrow points to something adults can learn from the activity. This is really "Learning Together."

Did You Know

This sign--lightbulb--shares a fact or two that might even make you "smarter."

Help To Make This Activity Work

This sign is the key that helps you both do this activity more easily.

Materials*

This sign shows you what you will need to do the activity. These materials are inexpensive and usually available in the home.

*** Doing It**

This sign shows an easy way to do this "recipe." Just follow it step-by-step.

*** More Ideas**

This sign gives an extra touch. It helps you use the activity in other ways. It adds your own and your children's special ideas.

Reward

This sign gives a reward for the children. These are rewards that tell them--"You've done a good job!"

*The drawings for Materials, Doing It, and More Ideas are different for each "recipe." These are examples from Fractions For Friends.

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Tips for Good Results

1. Write a note or mark the calendar to be sure you remember to do the "recipe." This is your special time together.

2. Pick the time to do the activity together with your child. At school, math may start each day at 9:10. Home teaching is more tuned to the moods of both parent and child.

3. Read the entire "recipe" carefully. You then know what it is about. Explain to your child what you both will be doing step-by-step.

4. Don't worry about doing anything wrong. Neither you nor your child can do these "recipes" wrong.

5. Start the activity positively. A how-would-you-like-to question may receive a "no" answer from children. Instead try, "We're going to have a good time."

6. Believe that your child can "do the job." If he's unsure, remind him of earlier successes. Remind him that he swam across the pool even though he was scared. He caught that fish. He went down the high slide at the playground.

7. Don't expect a perfect job. Be sincere in your praise, but don't overdo it. Display your child's work for the rest of the family to enjoy.

8. Use the "recipes" as beginning points. The "recipes" improve as you try them different ways, just as cooking does. Look to the "More Ideas" for ways to make the activity easier or harder to match your child's interest.

9. Use your own imagination and creativity. Ask your children for their ideas.

10. Enjoy! Share your joy about yourself and your children with family and friends.

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Reading: Grades Kindergarten to Three

The 12 "recipes" in this section are arranged, insofar as possible, in order of difficulty for the children--from easiest to hardest.

The listing below highlights a special learning for the adults and a special learning for the children in each "recipe."

1. **The Importance Of Me**

Adults learn how important it is for their children to feel good about themselves, to have self-esteem.

Children learn to think about what they like and what they are like.

2. **The Working World**

Adults learn about changes that occur in occupational skills as technology changes.

Children learn about the many different kinds of jobs that people can do.

3. **My Special Garden**

Adults learn how important it is for children to experience the the satisfaction of finishing a job that they have started.

Children learn the achievement of growing their own plants from seeds.

4. **A Walk Through The Pages**

Adults learn to use the telephone directory for information and to use the telephone, when possible, instead of the car.

Children learn to improve their observation and categorizing skills.

5. **Everything Fits**

Adults learn ways to organize items at home to make daily tasks easier.

Children learn how to organize objects together that look alike or have the same use.

6. **Let The Sun Shine**

Adults learn how to help children know about and have confidence in their own abilities.

Children learn to share their delight to make others feel good.

7. **Bottom Shelf Shopper**

Adults learn that children who are constructively busy, while parents are shopping, do not become bored.

Children learn the importance of planning in advance and of making a list, when necessary, of things to remember.

8. **The Best Greetings Are Free**

Adults learn how to teach children to be thoughtful by giving them opportunities to be kind to others.

Children learn that they can make their own presents and greetings to show their love.

9. **Health Care Messages**

Adults learn how to help children follow good health and safety habits.

Children learn to take care of themselves and follow health routines daily.

10. **Planning Ahead**

Adults learn that standards of dress vary and that appropriate clothes help make good impressions.

Children learn to plan on what to wear, so that their clothes are clean and ready to use.

11. **Water Tour**

Adults learn about typical water use at home and how water can be conserved.

Children learn that water costs money and that it is a valuable resource.

12. **TV: Choice Or Habit**

Adults learn about the importance of supervising children's television watching and of helping children begin to make viewing choices.

Children learn how to regulate their own television time and to make decisions about what to watch.

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Mathematics: Grades Kindergarten to Three

The 12 "recipes" in this section are arranged, insofar as possible, in order of difficulty for the children--from easiest to hardest.

The listing below highlights a special learning for the adults and a special learning for the children in each "recipe."

1. **Sign Signals**

   Adults learn how to teach children traffic and safety to prevent accidents.

   Children learn how to read and to obey traffic signs.

2. **Numbers Galore**

   Adults learn the importance of math skills for good jobs.

   Children learn to recognize and feel comfortable using numbers.

3. **Math On The Move**

   Adults learn how to begin a program of home health maintenance through exercise.

   Children learn to exercise and do math at the same time.

4. **Paper Bag Walk**

   Adults learn how individual actions can affect government and make a community better.

   Children learn that good citizenship involves sharing.

5. **The Time Of Our Lives**

   Adults learn about immunizations for their family.

   Children learn about using their time wisely and get practice in budgeting time.

6. **Food And Money**

   Adults learn about how to save money when buying food.

   Children learn about unit pricing and math abbreviations on food packages.

7. **Stepping Out**

Adults learn about ways to make easy comparisons and estimates.

Children learn about ways to measure using parts of their bodies.

8. **Water Magic**

Adults learn ways to teach science in everyday life.

Children learn about and experiment with water in its many forms.

9. **Weigh Me**

Adults learn about the metric system of measurement.

Children learn how to use scales and to work with fractions.

10. **Entertainments Near And Far**

Adults learn more about their community and about recreation places near home.

Children learn how to chart and record activities they can do with their family.

11. **My Very Own Place**

Adults learn how to keep and file important family records.

Children learn to organize their own possessions.

12. **SOS**

Adults learn to help their children handle an emergency using community resources.

Children learn how to find, record and use special emergency telephone numbers.

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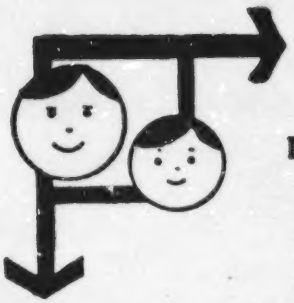
K-3
Math
Citizenship

SOS
Learning To Handle Emergencies



Learning Together

Your child will learn what to do in case of emergency. He will learn how to get help, either by using the telephone or by asking a neighbor.

It is important that your child learn how to call for help. He should know how to identify who he is and where he is located. Emergency telephone numbers are rarely used. However, children and even adults should know what number to call if necessary. Practice the dialing of emergency numbers with your child. Practice how to call on neighbors for help. Then your child will be prepared if a real emergency occurs.

Did You Know?

Emergency numbers are usually listed at the beginning of a telephone book. Fire, Police and Poison Control numbers are among those listed. If you need emergency help but do not have a telephone book, you can dial "0" for operator anywhere in the United States. The operator who answers will either tell you the number you need or call it for you.

It is important when you call for emergency help that you give the exact location where help is needed. You must also give your name and the telephone number from which you are calling.

Help to Make this Activity Work

1. Be sure you have asked a neighbor, friend or relative to help out in an emergency. Practice asking this person for help. You can pretend to be the person your child needs to reach.
2. Practice makes perfect. Practice dialing. Use a child's toy telephone. Your may also hold down the button of the receiver while he uses a real telephone. You can pretend to be the person on the other end of the line.

Step 1 - Materials

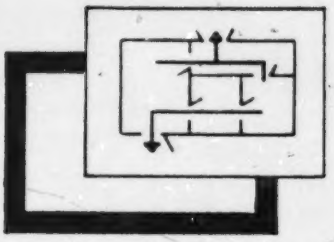
Toy or real telephone
A local telephone directory
Pen/pencil
Paper
Tape

Step 2 - Doing It

1. Discuss several kinds of emergencies with your child. Help him realize it is useful to have a few special numbers to call in case of an emergency.
2. Together, look in the local telephone book for the listing of the numbers. Examples include the fire department, the police department and the local hospital. If your child can't read, make a picture chart with the numbers. Put a picture of a fire next to the fire department number.
3. Talk about which family member, neighbor or friend he should contact in an emergency. Don't forget to put this person's name on the picture chart.
4. If your child can read and write, help him list all emergency numbers on a sheet of paper.

Name	Telephone
Aunt Sue	372-2110

5. Show your child how to read and dial these numbers. Let him practice dialing by himself. Take turns playing a game. First, he can dial the emergency number and you can answer the call. Then you dial the emergency number and he answers the call.
6. Teach him to tell his name and address slowly and clearly to the person to whom he's talking.
7. Post the emergency number list or picture chart at your child's eye level close to your telephone.



Exit Plan

Step 3 - More Ideas

To prepare for fire emergencies, walk through the house. Point out possible exits. Explain the safe way to exit. Decide on a safe place for the family to meet outside the house. Have some practice fire drills.

Step 4 - Reward

Visit the local fire or police department. Let your child look at the equipment and talk to the firefighters and policemen. Give your child an opportunity to share his new emergency number knowledge with the firefighters or policemen. Ask them to explain how they receive and respond to calls.

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Reading: Grades Four to Six

The 12 "recipes" in this section are arranged, insofar as possible, in order of difficulty for the children--from easiest to hardest.

The listing below highlights a special learning for the adults and a special learning for the children in each "recipe."

1. **Objects Tell Occupations**

Adults learn that children need to start to think about their future careers at an early age.

Children learn about the many people and skills needed in different jobs to make goods and to provide services.

2. **Visiting Older People**

Adults learn about today's new group of older people and their needs in the family and in the community.

Children learn how to use their own skills to make an older person happy.

3. **Business Walk**

Adults learn about local community business services and how to get more information about them.

Children learn that there are many kinds of businesses in their community offering goods and services to their family.

4. **Family Directory**

Adults learn how to help children keep in touch with relatives and friends.

Children learn through practice how alphabetizing helps them locate names.

5. **How Much Is It?**

Adults learn how to use catalogs and newspapers to determine the most economical places to shop and to take advantage of sales of new and used items.

Children learn how prices vary greatly and how important it is to read and to compare prices before buying.

6. **Fill In The Blanks**

Adults learn about the costs of buying on credit.

Children learn through practice how to read and fill out forms carefully and completely.

7. **Personal Health File**

Adults learn about the importance of compiling health records for all family members and keeping them in a safe place.

Children learn to chart their own health record including immunizations, height and weight changes and childhood diseases.

8. **Button, Button**

Adults learn that many men and women are interested in fixing and styling their own clothes..

Children learn to take responsibility for the care of their own clothes.

9. **What Do You Think?**

Adults learn that there are different ways of listening and that some work better than others to help people express themselves openly.

Children learn through practice to listen to and understand different opinions.

10. **Operation Alert**

Adults learn about household products that will injure children if they are swallowed or handled.

Children learn how to recognize dangerous products by reading their labels.

11. **Child Care By The Hour**

Adults learn to teach basic child care and safety measures for babysitting.

Children learn how to care for and to entertain a younger child.

12. **Who's In The News**

Adults learn about ways to involve their children in wanting to know how government works and about the current events and people of the day.

Children learn to use daily news sources to find out more about political candidates and issues.

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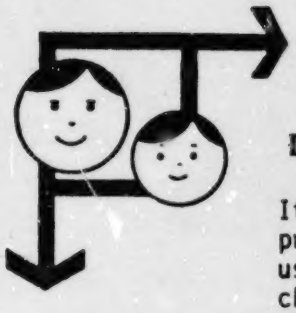
OPERATION ALERT

Reading Warning Labels On Products



This activity will help your child read and understand the warning labels on medicines in the home and on household cleaners.

Learning Together

It is important that your child learn to read labels. If a product is harmful or dangerous, the product's label should warn us. Reading labels carefully may save your child's life. Your child might not be able to read all the technical words, but he does need to recognize the important warning words.

Did You Know?

Twice as many children die accidentally from swallowing drugs and medicines as from swallowing household cleaners. The danger of taking medicine not prescribed by a doctor needs to be made clear to children. Three percent of our population dies yearly from accidental poisonings.

There are almost 600 poison control centers across the United States. At a poison control center, information is available on how to treat children and adults who have swallowed dangerous household products or medicines. Ask your doctor, ask at the health clinic or call your local hospital for the poison control number in your community. Keep it posted in your home.

Help to Make this Activity Work

Before starting this activity with your child, look around the house to find four or five products and medicines with warning labels. Put these in a sturdy box.

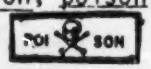
Step 1 - Materials

Flat surface (table or floor)
Paper, pencil/pen
Old newspapers
Sturdy box with four or five household products and medicines. Use only those with warning labels.

Step 2 - Doing It

1. Spread newspaper on the flat surface.

2. Take one product out of the box. Help your child read the warning label aloud.

3. Ask him to point to the words that mean WATCH OUT. Some of these are caution, poison, danger, the skull and crossbones symbol, 

warning, hazard.

4. Ask your child to read the labels of the other products or medicines in the box and write down the warning words. Help him write some of the warning words.

5. Talk about why these cleaning products and medicines are kept out of everyone's reach and why they have special tops and caps.

6. Tell your child what can be done if these products or medicines are swallowed accidentally. The label should tell us what remedies we can give to work against the poison. These are called "antidotes."

Step 3 - More Ideas

Ask your child, when he's outside to find signs that say hazard, caution, alert, careful, danger, watch out. Look for these signs as you're driving. Where are they found? Talk about why these signs are needed.

Step 4 - Reward

Put your child's list of warning words in a special place for the family to read. The refrigerator door is a very good place.

Praise your child for his help in bringing these label-warning words to the family's attention. His reward is in knowing more about his environment and in sharing with his family what he has learned.

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Mathematics: Grades Four to Six

The 12 "recipes" in this section are arranged, insofar as possible, in order of difficulty for the children--from easiest to hardest.

The listing below highlights a special learning for the adults and a special learning for the children in each "recipe."

1. **About Town**

Adults learn about their own community and about keeping accurate records for possible tax deductions.

Children learn how to read maps and how to give directions.

2. **Men, Women And Jobs**

Adults learn that the job world is changing and that many men and women today are doing similar kinds of jobs.

Children learn to broaden their thinking about possible career choices.

3. **My Private Time Line**

Adults learn ways to share their childhood memories with their children and to tell about their family "roots."

Children learn a sense of sequence and history in their own lives.

4. **Energy Wise**

Adults learn about the energy that comes from food and about their own personal metabolism.

Children learn to figure out more efficient ways to perform tasks.

5. **It's My Turn**

Adults learn about themselves as important role models in helping their children cooperate with others.

Children learn about teamwork and get practice in carrying out part of a bigger household job.

6. **Making Money Count**

Adults learn some basic principles of money management.

Children learn to make a money chart to get practice in handling money and making a budget.

7. **Saving And Banking**

Adults learn how to obtain information about bank savings and checking accounts.

Children learn about saving money in order to purchase those special items they may want.

8. **Prices Going Up**

Adults learn about inflation and the factors that affect the prices of goods and services.

Children learn about the family's bills and money needed to meet their family's daily living needs.

9. **The Best Buys Have It**

Adults learn basic nutrition facts for wise decision making in the super market.

Children learn how to use newspaper ads for planning balanced meals and grocery price comparisons.

10. **Fractions For Friends**

Adults learn how to help children plan nutritious and varied meals.

Children learn how to prepare meals carefully with the right amount of food for the number of people eating.

11. **Weather Watch**

Adults learn about the specialized jobs and terms associated with daily weather, including the difference between Celsius and Fahrenheit.

Children learn how to obtain information from different sources about the weather and to make decisions based on this information.

12. **What's In Your Food?**

Adults learn about the role of government agencies in protecting the consumer, especially in the area of food products.

Children learn about using the label on a product to identify its contents.

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Success for Children Begins and Continues at Home

Families using these "recipes" reported back on their experiences. Through use of the "recipes," parents and children have indicated that they have become aware of things about each other that they did not previously notice. Also, family members said that they gained new insights about themselves.

Here are some of their comments:

Reading K-3

The Importance Of Me

"We found Mary Kay could follow directions well on her own and laid the poster out very well."

The Working World

"This helped my sons realize that a mother's role in the home is changing."

Let The Sun Shine

"This idea made my son proud of himself."

TV: A Choice Or A Habit

"I think this project has helped in having my child think as well as making decisions.

"This did make me more aware of time spent in front of TV. Now we try to do more activities together.

Math K-3

Math On The Move

"Becky is enjoying these activities. It is helping her learn It is also something I can share and do with her."

Water Magic

"Michael enjoys working in the kitchen and using the measuring cup."

"This teaches my son to be more careful around the stove."

My Very Own Place

"My idea to help my daughter with her box made her excited about learning to organize her personal things. She really enjoyed putting her final touches on it."

Reading 4-6

Visiting Older People

"This was a very worthwhile activity and worth repeating. We were made aware of the appreciation of companionship by a shut-in."

How Much Is It?

"This recipe will help my child be a more careful and alert shopper when he becomes an adult."

Button, Button

"Krystie has been sewing for two or more years making doll clothes and things. I'm very glad to know that the school thinks these things are important."

What Do You Think?

"This project helped us to learn the likes and dislikes within our family."

Math 4-6

Energy Wise

"This idea seemed to help my child want to do his job and be proud of it."

Making Money Count

"This was a good activity for Gloria because of the structure involved in filling out forms and keeping records. Gloria is now keeping a permanent ledger book for her allowances.

The Best Buys Have It

"Matt decided he would prepare and plan lunch every Saturday. He enjoyed this recipe."

Fractions For Friends

"The whole family has enjoyed these activities. I think they have helped me, in a way, more than my child in that I am developing more patience and am having to learn to 'share' my kitchen with someone who truly wants to learn. Thank you for this new activity and helping me realize that I am indeed, not too old to learn."

Throughout the Families Learning Together curriculum, children and parents are encouraged to use their own imagination, inventiveness and creativity. Children are born with the instinctive urge to learn, to grow and to realize their potential. The Families Learning Together program is all about helping families realize their potential to use the gifts that are inborn and build skills that can be acquired in an atmosphere of love and respect.

THE WORK OF THE HOME AND SCHOOL INSTITUTE

The Home and School Institute (HSI) is a national, tax-exempt educational institute begun in 1965. It was created to help families and community institutions through research and direct service programs. The goals are to build student abilities and family life. HSI develops and seeks ways to help families build on their strengths at home, in schools, and in the community.

HSI works with community service agencies and schools to design training and special curricula: cost-effective, replicable programs in such areas as school-to-home based learning, for federal, state and local systems. HSI also designs programs for family health services and for handicapped children, bilingual multicultural children, and their families. HSI works directly with families and schools to strengthen the parenting role with special emphasis on HSI's "home-style" learning design for all families including working parents and single parent families.

HSI college credit training programs include a master's degree concentration in School and Family-Community Involvement offered at Trinity College, Washington, D.C. and on-site courses and workshops nationwide. These have been identified by the United States Office of Education as unique models in community involvement.

HSI is supported by training programs for teachers and parents, materials development, research and demonstration programs for school systems, foundations and corporations. HSI is not a membership organization. HSI works closely with groups to help individuals, parents, and national networks on behalf of children, families and schools.

Further inquiries concerning the study and kits should be addressed to:

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